

For 22 years, she traveled extensively in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and South America to promote IEI. During this time, the school enrolled over 40,000 students, some of whom are heads of state and leaders in worldwide businesses. In 2001, she joined her husband, Mike Hamzy, as President of Harbison International, Inc.

Currently, she serves on the Board, Executive Committee, and Air Quality Task Force of the Fresno Business Council. She is also Chair of the Fresno Revitalization Corporation and serves on the boards of FRESPEC and the CSUF Business Advisory Council. She is a member of the Fresno Rotary Club, the Forum, and the Owls Club.

She previously served as President on the boards of the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce; the Fresno Convention and Visitor's Bureau; and the CSUF Business Associates. She has served on the boards of the EDC, Fresno Art Museum, Compact, CSUF Alumni and Friends, and the New United Way. She was Vice President of the National Associate of Arab American and Co-Chair of the Commission on the Future of Education for Fresno County. I appointed Anne as a delegate to the California Republican Party, where she has served since 1995. In the same year, she was appointed as a delegate by Gov. Pete Wilson to the White House Conference on Small Business. He also appointed her to the California Council to promote Business Ownership by Women.

In 1990, IEI received the U.S. Small Business Administration's "Business of the Year in California" award. In 1991, IEI won the "Business Enterprise of the Year" award for outstanding contributions to Fresno's economy and for business excellence. In 1993, Mrs. Speake was presented the Baker, Peterson, & Franklin "Top 5 Award for Excellence." Mrs. Speake was awarded the CSUF Sid Craig School of Business "Alumni of the Year Award" for 1994. In 1998, the U.S. Small Business Administration recognized Mrs. Speake as the Central California Women in Business Advocate of the Year, and the National Honor Society made her an Honorary Beta Gamma Sigma. In February 2000, Mrs. Speake was the Leon S. Peters Award recipient for a career of outstanding business leadership in community service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Anne Speake. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman and the contributions she has made to small business and the city of Fresno.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES R. PARKER

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to thank James R. Parker for more than three decades of service to the Nation.

A dedicated employee of the Federal Government, James will be retiring from the Social Security Administration at the end of July. For years now, we've been able to count on James to help make government work better for all of us.

While I'm thankful for James and his service, we'll miss the knowledge, compassion and

tremendous work ethic he brought to every task.

Tennessee is proud of James, and we all wish him and his wife, Patricia, a wonderful retirement.

#### THE DEATH OF RYAN KOVACICEK

### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Ryan J. Kovacicek of Washington, Pennsylvania, part of the 18th Congressional District. Lance Corporal Kovacicek was killed July 10th from a mortar attack in the town of Hit, located in western Iraq. He died alongside Sergeant Joseph P. Goodrich, another member of his unit from Pittsburgh.

Just 22 years old, Lance Corporal Kovacicek was a member of Kilo Company, a Marine Forces Reserve unit based in Moundsville, West Virginia. Like so many other young men and women in our reserves, Kovacicek was a student. A junior at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, he was studying criminology and played on the hockey team. He also lettered in hockey all four years he attended Bishop Canevin Catholic High School.

Following in a long tradition of military service in his family, Lance Corporal Kovacicek enlisted in the reserves to help defend his country. His father, Joseph, served in Vietnam as a Marine, and his grandfather, Paul Karpan, fought with the Army in Europe during World War II. Understanding the true meaning of patriotism, Lance Corporal Kovacicek paid the ultimate sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. God bless them, and all the members of the armed forces fighting the war on terror, and their families.

#### SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Miller for his leadership on this bill. Mr. Speaker I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 525. Association Health Plans cherry-pick. They lower standards of care. They fail to reduce the growing ranks of the uninsured. But I would like to focus on a critical shortfall we don't often hear much about: Efficiency.

AHPs fail to address the white elephant in the living room. One of the biggest reasons that America's health care costs are so high is that we pay far more for administrative costs in privately administered health plans than other industrialized nations. The average private health plan puts 12-15 percent—sometimes as high as 30 percent—of your health care dollar to administrative costs. AHPs would not only fail to address this problem, but could make it worse.

In fact, a study by human resources consultants, William Mercer, Inc. found that "... the potential administrative cost increases typically

would exceed the potential administrative cost savings. We estimate that the additional costs for small firms who buy AHP coverage typically would range from 1.5 percent to 5 percent of premiums." That is above and beyond the average administrative costs of 12-15 percent.

Now contrast that with the overhead costs of Medicare, whose 40th birthday we celebrate this week. On average, Medicare's administrative costs are 2-3 percent. That means that Medicare is about 5 times more efficient than private health plans and could be 7 to 10 times more efficient than AHPs.

Health care costs are dragging small businesses down in their efforts to compete with their counterparts in other nations where health care is universal. It is time to stop dancing around the margins of reform by proposing more of the same inefficiencies. We already know what works. Let's expand Medicare to all.

#### HONORING DR. JOSE CELSO BARBOSA

### HON. LUIS FORTUÑO

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. FORTUÑO. Mr. Speaker, today it is my special privilege to render tribute to a great American and a great Puerto Rican on the 148th commemoration of his birth. Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa was born in Bayamon, Puerto Rico on July 27, 1857, when Puerto Rico was still a colony of Spain. In 1876 he traveled to the United States to continue his studies, and in 1880 he graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in medicine, first in his class and valedictorian of a very distinguished medical graduating class that included the Mayo brothers of Mayo Clinic fame. Dr. Barbosa was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the prestigious University of Michigan.

Upon returning to Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa dedicated himself to his private medical practice, became a professor of medicine at one of the institutions of higher learning in Puerto Rico, and made his first incursion in political issues, becoming a firm defender of negotiating increased autonomy for Puerto Rico from Spain.

With the change in sovereignty in 1898, in which Puerto Rico was ceded to the United States after the Spanish-American War, Dr. Barbosa envisioned the Federalist system of the United States as the ideal solution to the colonial problem of Puerto Rico, declaring himself an advocate of admitting the Island as a state of the Union. With that lofty purpose in mind, he formed the Republican Party of Puerto Rico on July 4, 1899.

Dr. Barbosa was the founder of the newspaper "El Tiempo", for which he wrote numerous articles in defense of his goal to have Puerto Rico become a state of the Union. When the United States allowed for the formation of a Senate at the local level in 1917, Dr. Barbosa was elected as a member of that legislative body. He was reelected in 1920. During his stint in the Senate, Dr. Barbosa introduced legislation allowing for trial by jury and introducing the writ of "Habeas Corpus" within the Judicial Penal System of Puerto Rico.